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75th Anniversary of Walt Disney Comics

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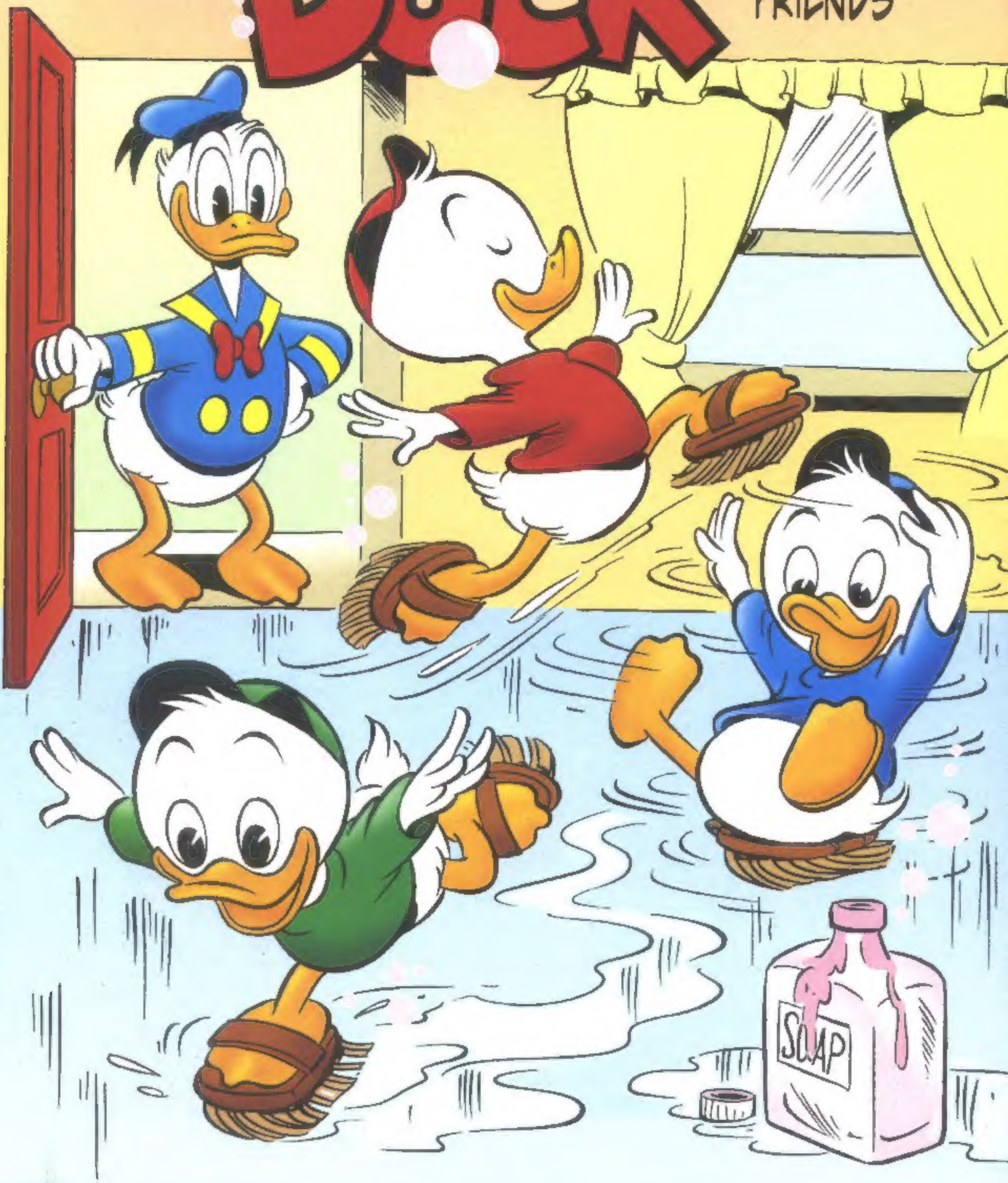
WALT DISNEY'S

DONALD DUCK

AND FRIENDS



Last year, the Prescott Public Library acquired a number of our books to be used as give-aways in an event about comics and aimed at kids. Our friend, Russ Miller told us the event was a success and we asked him to give us a report:

The Prescott ConneXion is a rather unique facility. It is a fully functioning library, located in a large, new shopping center called The Gateway Mall in Prescott, Arizona. It provides patrons with free Internet access, pick ups, drop offs, and stocked selections of books, movies, CDs, and audio books, as well as a pleasant, well-designed children's section.

Throughout the year, various public events are scheduled at this satellite of Prescott Public Library, ranging from book signings to live music, to puppet shows, guest speakers, and free tax aid.

Last year we hosted a comic book seminar where the process of comic book production was demonstrated, and some comic book artists voluntarily attended to answer questions and give away a variety of your fine Disney comics. In 2004, it was the best-attended program we produced all year! We made at least 100 kids very happy with giveaways of *Donald Duck and Friends*, *Mickey Mouse and Friends*, and *Walt Disney's Comics and Stories*. It was lots of fun, and hugs were common. The parents were also full of sighs and nostalgic praise, proving once again the magic of Disney products. We plan on doing a similar program again the first part of 2005, and we will let you know how it goes. I imagine it will be even more successful given the popularity of the first event. Thanks for producing such a classic group of books.

—Russell L. Miller
Branch Manager – The Prescott ConneXion

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Story & Art: Carl Barks (*WDC* #42, *March 1944*)
Color: Egmont & S. Daigle-Leach

Mickey Mouse **MYSTERIES OF ANCIENT EGYPT**
Story: Donald D. Markstein
Art: Jaspen Lund Madsen
Color: Egmont & Pamela Rambo
Lettering: Travis Seitler

Donald Duck **THE GIANT FROM OUTER SPACE**
Story: Gorm Transgaard
Art: Marçal Abella Bresco
Color: Egmont & Travis Seitler
Lettering: Willie Schubert

Front cover art by Daniel Branca, color by Sue Kolberg

NEXT ISSUE SHIPS WEEK OF MAY 11TH
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Donald Duck

in "KITE WEATHER"

by Walt Disney

THE KIDS MUST BE TRAININ' FOR THE KITE-FLYIN' CONTEST THIS AFTERNOON!

THEY'RE NOT MUCH GOOD AT IT! I CAN FLY A KITE TWICE THAT HIGH!

I KNOW WHAT! I'LL MAKE A KITE AND OUTFLY 'EM! IT'LL MAKE 'EM MADDER THAN HORNETS!

IF I DISGUISE MYSELF AS A GIRL, THEY'LL GET MUCH ANGRIER! IT'D KILL 'EM TO HAVE A GIRL BEAT 'EM!

DONALD CARRIES OUT HIS DIABOLICAL IDEA!

ROOT-TE-TOOT! ROOT-TE-TOOT! I'M A GIRL FROM THE INSTITUTE!

OH, GOODNETH! ITH THAT ALL THE HIGHER YOU CAN FLY A KITE? DEARIE ME! YOU MUTHT NOT KNOW MUCH ABOUT IT!

I'LL LET YOU LOOK AT MY KITE THO YOU CAN THEE HOW THEY'RE MADE! **WE GIRLTH** MAKE THUCH GOOD KITETH!

CASTOR OIL

WATCH HOW EATHY I THAIL MY ITTY BITTY KITIE! YOU CAN LEARN A LOT!

LOOK! MY ITTY BITTY KITIE ITH HIGHER THAN YOURTH ALREADY! WE GIRLTH WILL WIN THE CONTETHT THITH AFTERNOON — YOU'LL THEE!

I CAN'T STAND MUCH MORE!

ME NEITHER!

NOR ME!

LOOK! I MOVE MY HAND LIKE THITH AND MY KITIE DOTH A FIGURE EIGHT! I BET YOU NEVER THAW ANYTHING THO CLEVER BEFORE!

OH, THEE THE ITTY BITTY BUTTERCUPTH! AREN'T THEY THWEET?

HEY! YOU CAN'T DO THAT TO A GIRL!

GIRL OR NO GIRL — I CAN STAND NO MORE!

YEEK!

YOU LITTLE SCOUNDRELS! I'LL SKIN YOU ALIVE!

OH, OH! I KNOW THAT VOICE!

IT'S UNCA DONALD!

RUN FOR YOUR LIVES!

TRY TO BEAT HIM TO A FENCE CORNER SO WE CAN STOP HIM WITH OUR MARBLES!

THROW 'EM WHERE HE'LL HAVE TO STEP ON 'EM!

WHAT THE SAM HILL?

I HOPE I LAND ON SOMETHING SOFT!

DOGGONE THE LLICK! I CAN'T GET LOOSE! GET ME DOWN!

NOW'S OUR CHANCE TO TEACH HIM A LESSON! LISTEN TO THIS SCHEME — BZZ-ZZ ZZ!

TIE 'EM TOGETHER TIGHTLY! THEY HAVE TO LIFT A HEAVY LOAD!

THE KITES ARE PULLING HIM CLEAR!

SWELL! SAIL HIM OUT OVER THE RIVER!

WHAT'S GOIN' ON? WHERE AM I?

IF I TEAR THIS HOLE A LITTLE BIGGER, I CAN SEE OUT!

YEEOW! LET ME DOWN!

PROMISE YOU WON'T

POKE FUN AT OUR KITE ANYMORE!

I PROMISE ANYTHING! LET ME DOWN!

LATER

YOUR OLD KITE WASN'T SO HOT, ANYWAY!

LOOK AT THOSE OVER THERE!

WOW! THEY MUST BE A THOUSAND FEET UP! LET'S GO SEE WHAT BOYS ARE FLYIN' 'EM!

G-GIRLS!

WITH THIS WIND AND THESE KITES WE CAN'T HELP WINNING THE CONTEST-CAN WE, GIRLS?

OH, GOODNETH NO!

PLAYGROUND
JUNIOR BONFIRE GIRLS
MEMBERS ONLY

GIRLS! IF A GIRL WINS THE KITE CONTEST, THIS TOWN WON'T BE FIT TO LIVE IN!

I'LL HAVE TO HELP YOU BOYS! I'LL BUILD YOU A KITE THAT'LL OUTFLY ANYTHING THEY HAVE THERE!

THE FOUR SET TO WORK QUICKLY, FOR TIME IS SHORT!

WE FOUND SOME STICKS FOR THE FRAME, UNCA DONALD!

THEY'RE TOO SHORT! FIND SOME TWICE THAT LONG!

WILL THIS TWINE STRING BE ALL RIGHT, UNCA DONALD?

TOO WEAK! GET MY SILK TROLLING LINE! IT'S GOT MORE OOMPH!

THAR SHE IS, BOYS! A KILLER-DILLER, EH WOT?

IT'S TOO BIG, UNCA DONALD!

IF A STRONG WIND HIT THAT THING,

IT'D PULL UP A TREE!

AFRAID, HUH? I'LL FLY IT MYSELF!

BUT YOU CAN'T ENTER THE CONTEST, UNCA DONALD!

ONLY KIDS UNDER SIX

ARE ELIGIBLE!

I'LL FIX THAT! WHERE'S THAT FAUNTLEROY OUTFIT I STORED IN HERE?

YOUR DISGUISES

ARE GOIN' TO GET YOU

INTO TROUBLE, UNCA DONALD!

THE CONTEST GETS UNDER WAY WITH KITES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION FILLING THE AIR!

THE JUNIOR BONFIRE GIRLS LOOK LIKE A CINCH TO WIN!

WE'LL LAUNCH OUR KITE RIGHT HERE, BOYS! I WANT IT TO BE A MILE HIGH WHEN I PASS THE JUDGES' STAND!

NOW, DON'T FORGET TO ACT LIKE A FIVE-YEAR-OLD!

THE CROWD SEES IT! LISTEN TO 'EM GASP!

IT'S HIGHER THAN ANY OF 'EM ALREADY!

YES, AND YOU'RE ABOUT TO GO UP

THERE WITH IT!

HELP ME HOLD IT!

WE CAN'T, UNCA DONALD!

IT'S AGAINST THE RULES!

IF I CAN HOLD IT LONG ENOUGH TO PASS THE JUDGES' STAND, I'LL BE O.K.!

THAT'S THE WINNING KITE!

JUDGE

HOORAY!

WHO'S FLYIN' IT? WE CAN'T SEE FOR THE DUST!

MUST BE A GIRL! NO BOY COULD MAKE A KITE THAT GOOD!

IF I LIVE TILL I REACH THAT FENCE, I CAN TIE THIS CONFOUNDED THING TO A POST!

OH, OH! I LOST MY OUTFIT IN THOSE BRAMBLES! IF THE JUDGES SEE ME LIKE THIS, THEY'LL KNOW I'M AN IMPOSTOR!

I'VE GOTTA FIND SOME CLOTHES BEFORE THE CROWD GETS HERE! THERE'S A CLOTHESLINE IN THIS YARD! MAYBE THERE'S SOMETHING ON IT!

OF ALL THE DOGGONE LUCK! ONLY A GIRL'S DRESS!—BUT IT'LL FIT ME!

I HAVE TO GO BACK AND FACE 'EM! IF THEY FIND OUT I'M OVER-AGE THEY'LL RUN ME OUT OF TOWN!

THERE'S OUR KITE STAR! WHY—IT'S A LITTLE GIRL!

GOODY! GOODY! I TOLD YOU SO!

WHAT IS YOUR NAME, LITTLE GIRL? WE WILL ENGRAVE IT ON THE CUP!

DON-ER— DONNA DUCK! AGED FIVE!

THAT EVENING THE NEWS PAPERS PRINT THE STORY! DOES DONALD BURN? WOW!

LITTLE GIRL WITH BIG KITE WINS TOP HONORS

"CUTEST TOT I EVER SAW," SAYS MAYOR OF SAY HEROINE

DONNA DUCK

IF WE EVER TELL THE BOYS AROUND TOWN WHO DONNA DUCK REALLY IS,

THEY'LL NEVER SPEAK TO YOU AGAIN!

AW, GO FLY YER KITES!

KNOCK KNOCK...

...WHO'S THERE?

...Disney

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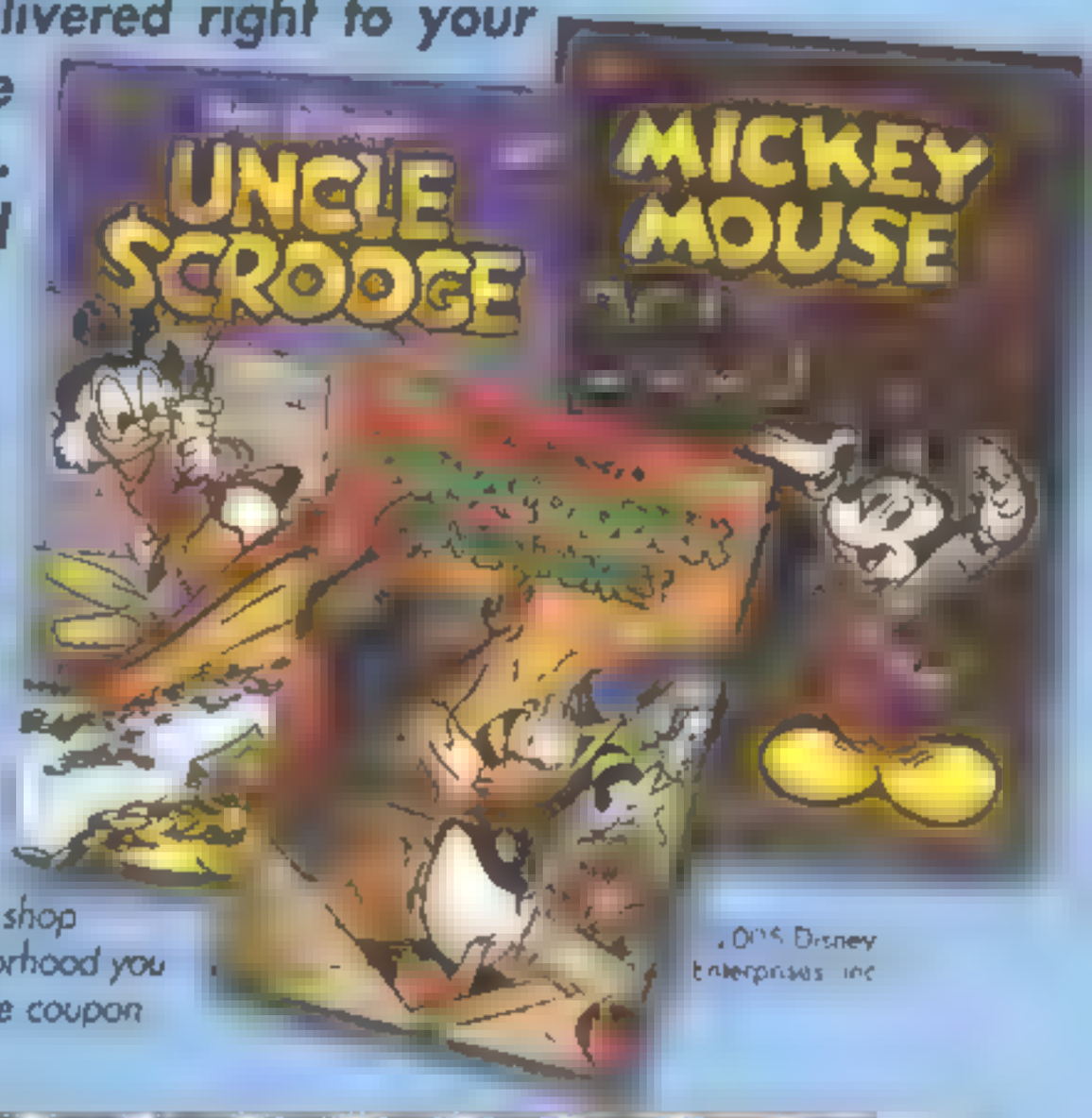

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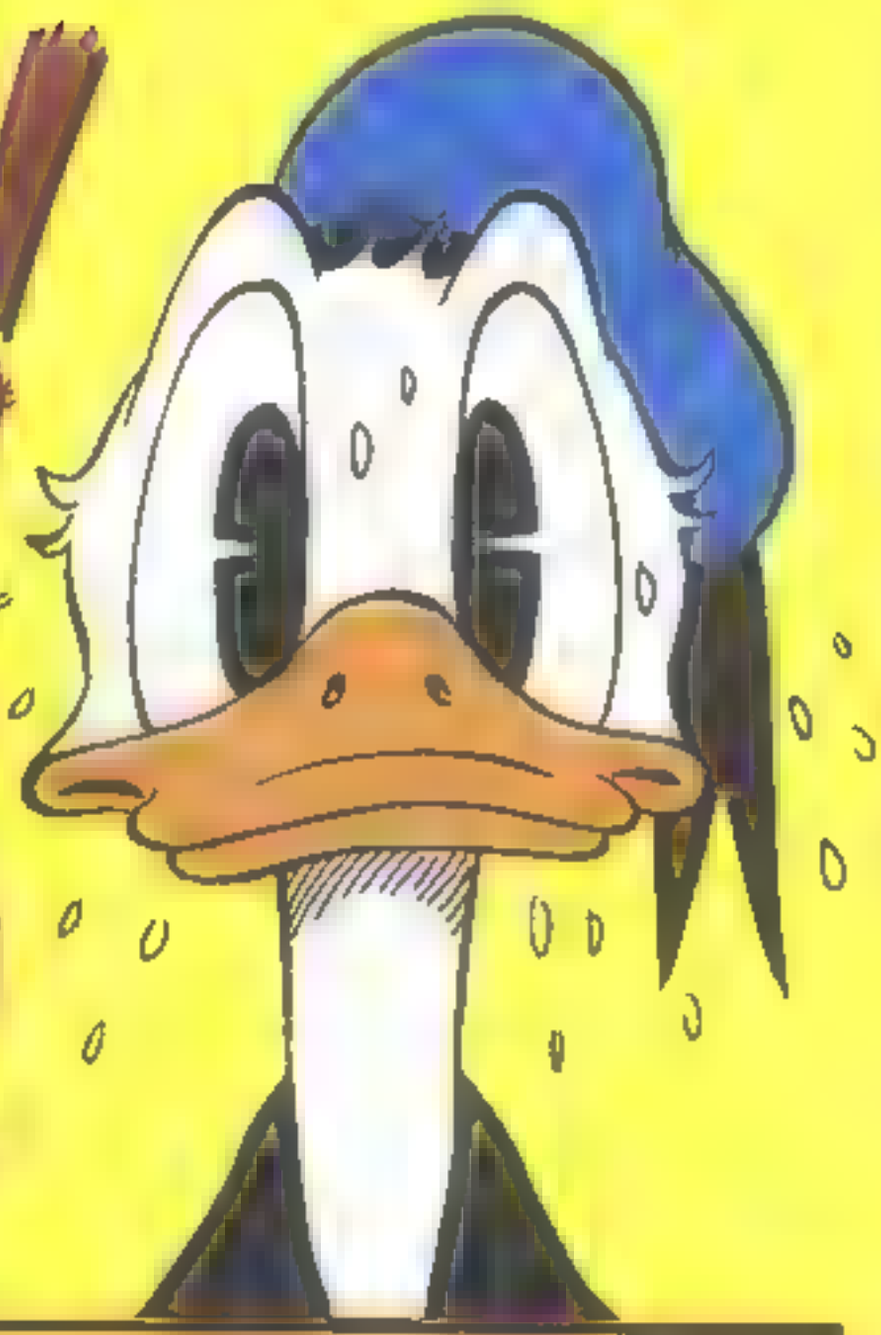
ACTION! SURPRISE! SUSPENSE! ADVENTURE!



Will Donald survive the perils that await him in the pages of "Dangerous Disguise"? Find out in the next issue of Walt Disney's "Vacation Parade 2," available at your local comic book store in May of 2005.

Walt Disney's VACATION PARADE 2

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Walt Disney's MICKEY MOUSE in MYSTERIES OF ANCIENT EGYPT

...AND SO I, PROFESSOR BRAINDRYE, HAVE PROVEN THAT THE *ROSEANNA STONE*, WHICH I UNEARTHED ON MY LATEST EXPEDITION, IS THE OLDEST EXISTING WORK OF EGYPTIAN ART!

-ZZZZ- SNORK-GLOOP -ZZZZ!-

SNAP!

D 98326

ITS ENGRAVINGS SHOW A CULTURAL LACK OF ARTISTIC ABILITY THAT DID NOT CHANGE OVER TIME! HENCE MY STARTLING CONCLUSION THAT...

...*ANCIENT EGYPTIANS* WERE *BAD ARTISTS*! EVEN *WORSE* THAN THOSE WHO DRAW TODAY'S *COMIC BOOKS*!

SNAP!

BRAVO!

AMAZING DEDUCTION!

WAKE UP, MICKEY! THE TALK IS OVER!

-ZZZ!- HUH?! ER, GREAT LECTURE! HOORAY!

I HAVE *NEVER* BEEN *SO* EMBARRASSED! CAN'T YOU BE CULTURALLY STIMULATED WITHOUT FALLING ASLEEP?

WELL, YOU'VE GOT TO ADMIT, IT *WAS* PRETTY BORING!

THE *GREAT* PROFESSOR BRAINDRYE – *BORING*?! –HMPH!– CALL ME WHEN YOU'VE DECIDED TO TAKE AN INTEREST IN INTELLECTUAL PURSUITS!

BUT MINNIE! I... AW, RATS!

...*AMAZING* INSIGHTS...

...*I APPLAUD YOU*, PROFESSOR...

MAYBE IF I LISTEN IN, I CAN LEARN ENOUGH TO MAKE MINNIE HAPPY!

...BRILLIANT WORK...

...NOBEL PRIZE...

TAP TAP TAP

WHOP!

HUH?!

MERCIFUL HEAVENS! WHAT ARE YOU *DOING*?

LET ME *GO*, YOU *IDIOTS!* I MUST SHOW YOU THE *TRUTH!*

OH, MY *POOR* ROSEANNA STONE! DID HE *HURT* YOU?

HMPH! I THINK IT BEST YOU *LEAVE*, SIR!

IF I *DO*, FOOL, YOU W LL NEVER UNDERSTAND THE *TRUE SIGNIFICANCE* OF THE ROSEANNA STONE!

I HAVE ALREADY *EXPLAINED* ITS SIGNIFICANCE! *ANCIENT EGYPTIANS COULDN'T DRAW!*

IMBECILE! YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT THEY WERE *TRYING* TO DRAW!

IN TRUTH, THE ROSEANNA STONE RECORDS A *VISIT* TO EGYPT BY *ROBOTS* FROM THE FIFTH PLANET OF THE STAR *SIRIUS!*

THE EGYPTIANS WERE *EXCELLENT* ARTISTS! THOSE HIEROGLYPHIC FIGURES ARE *EXACTLY* WHAT THE ROBOTS *LOOKED LIKE!*

AND THERE'S *MORE!* THE STONE'S TRUE SIGNIFICANCE IS —

HOW... *INTERESTING!*

IT SOUNDS AS IF YOU'VE BEEN READING THE THEORIES OF PROFESSOR *MINNEZONA SMITH!* OF COURSE, AS ALL *TRUE* ARCHAEOLOGISTS ARE AWARE, MINNEZONA SMITH IS SUCH AN *UTTER CRACKPOT* THAT —

INCOMPETENT *MORON!* I *AM* PROFESSOR MINNEZONA SMITH!

HOW *KIND* OF THE GREAT SMITH TO HONOR US WITH HIS INSIGHTS!

IDIOT! YOU'LL *PAY* FOR MOCKING ME!

HOW DROLL!

CONGRATULATIONS, BRANDRYE, ON YOUR *MASTERFUL* HANDLING OF THAT CHARLATAN!

PROFESSOR, *WAIT!*

WHY DOES BRAINDRYE MAKE FUN OF YOUR THEORIES?

HE IS A *FOOL!* HE BELIEVES IT POSSIBLE TO CREATE A *PERFECT* RENDITION OF...

...*THIS*...

->*OW!*<

ZZZ!

...THROUGH *INABILITY* TO DRAW! HE HAS NO *IDEA* WHAT HE HAS FOUND!

HE MAY REAP GLORY AND SCORN MY TRUE GENIUS *NOW*, BUT *MY* TIME IS *COMING*! BRAINDRYE WILL *RUE* THE DAY HE —

"RUE THE DAY"?! WHADDAYA *MEAN*, PROFESSOR?

13

SLAM!

AND SO –

I'VE JUST DECIDED I *LIKE* THIS *INTELLECTUAL* STUFF! MINNIE'S GONNA BE GLAD TO HEAR!

HOWEVER –

MICKEY! WHEN I TOLD YOU TO GET INTERESTED IN CULTURAL PURSUITS, I DID *NOT* MEAN SILLY *SPECULATION* FROM THE *LUNATIC FRINGE!*

BUT, MINNIE...

DON'T "BUT MINNIE" ME! LISTEN TO *REAL* SCIENTISTS LIKE PROFESSOR *BRAINDRYE!* AND COME BACK WHEN YOU'RE *BETTER-EDUCATED!*

NUTS! I'LL *NEVER* GET OUT OF THE DOGHOUSE UNLESS MINNEZONA SMITH TURNS OUT TO BE *RIGHT!* AND =SIGH!= THERE'S NOT MUCH CHANCE OF THAT!

BUT NEXT MORNING –

HEY! *HERE'S* A CHANCE TO GET BACK IN GOOD WITH MINNIE *WITHOUT* FALLING ASLEEP FROM BOREDOM!

EGYPTIAN ARTIFACTS STOLEN! ROSEANNA STONE AMONG MISSING TREASURES

THANKS, MICKEY, BUT DETECTIVE CASEY IS ON THE JOB!

READING ABOUT THIS CASE, CHIEF, I *STILL* SORTA THINK I COULD HELP SOMEHOW!

WELL, ALL RIGHT! MEET CASEY AT THE EGYPTOLOGY MUSEUM, AND TELL HIM I SAID YE'RE HIS ASSISTANT!

THANKS, CHIEF!

MINUTES LATER –

WATCHIN' ME WORK, MOUSE, SOMEDAY YA'LL BE A *REAL* DETECTIVE!

I HAVE LOTS TO LEARN, MR. CASEY!

NOW EXHIBITING - TREASURES OF KING

OF EGYPT

I UNNERSTAND YER TH' ONLY WITNESS! WHAT'S TH' STORY?

DON'T *BADGER* THE GUARD! HE'S BEEN IN *SHOCK* SINCE *MINNEZONA SMITH* STOLE THOSE ARTIFACTS!

URK-URK!

MINNEZONA SMITH?

A *LUNATIC* WHO *ATTACKS* THE WORK OF *LEGITIMATE* ARCHAEOLOGISTS!

A LOONEY, HUH? WE'LL *GET* HIM! CASE CL—

DOES THAT GUARD'S CONDITION HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH SMITH'S THEORY ABOUT *ROBOTS*?

ICK-ICK!

OCK-OCK!

UCK-UCK!

!!!

A NUT CASE... TOO BAD! GRILLING THAT SMITH GUY IS OBVIOUSLY THE ONLY WAY TO FIND THE ANSWERS!

HE'S STAYING AT THE SHMILTON!

AND SOMETHING TELLS ME WE'VE GOTTA GET TO HIM BEFORE SOMETHING HAPPENS!

WHAT *COULD* HAPPEN?

WHAT, INDEED?

COME, MY DIMINUTIVE MINIONS! WE HAVE MUCH *WORK* TO DO!

HEEELP!

AAAAG-GGHHH!

HOLY MOLEY!

COME ON! WE'VE GOTTA STOP 'EM—

-:HAHAHA!:- YOU ARE *NO MATCH* FOR MY *TOWERING GENIUS!*

GOTCHA!

-:OOF!:-

WHY, YOU! I'LL...

HEY! WHAT ON EARTH—

MICKEY?

COME BACK HERE, YOU FIEND!

-:BWAHAHAHA!:- YOU FOOLS WILL NEVER DEFEAT ME!

CASEY! WHERE WERE YOU DURNG THE FIGHT?

HEY! SOMEBODY HADDA LOOK FER CLUES, DON'TCHA THINK?

OH, YEAH? WELL... OH, NEVER MIND! LET'S CHECK SMITH'S ROOM!

WHY? WE JUST SAW HIM LEAVE IN THAT SILLY COSTUME!

SO IT SEEMS –

WHAT'D I TELL YA, MOUSE? IT'S A MESS, AN' NO SMITH!

HMM... A LETTER TO THE CALISOTA JOURNAL OF ARCHAEOLOGY! SEEMS TO BE ABOUT PROFESSOR BRAINDRYE!

"IGNORAMUS. . SIMPLETON.. QUA-" IS THIS WHAT SMITH MEANT WHEN HE SAID BRAINDRYE WOULD "RULE THE DAY"?

NAH! JUST PROVES SMITH IS NUTS!

IT ENDS HALFWAY THROUGH THE WORD "QUACK"! WHY? AND WHY SHOULD SMITH RANSACK HIS OWN HOTEL ROOM?

'CAUSE HE'S WACKY! C'MON, LET'S GO!

PROFESSOR BRAINDRYE!

I HEARD ABOUT THE *COSTUMED MIDGETS* MINNEZONA SMITH HIRED TO BOLSTER HIS ABSURD THEORY!

WE'LL LEAVE NO MIDGET UNARRESTED!

THERE'S NO HURRY! SMITH'S MADE HIS POINT, AND WON'T COMMIT ANY MORE CRIMES!

ANOTHER CASE SOLVED! C'MON, MOUSE! LET'S HAVE A DONUT TA CELEBRATE!

NOT YET! FIRST I'VE GOT SOMETHING TO *TAKE CARE* OF!

THAT AFTERNOON -

WHAT A *THRILLING* EXHIBIT! TOO BAD MICKEY CAN'T APPRECIATE IT!

MEN! THEY'RE ALL ALIKE!

THEY CERTAINLY—
—>*EEEEEEEK!*<—

HALP!

LOOT AND PILLAGE, MY MINIONS! THE HOUR OF MY *REVENGE* HAS ARRIVED!

—>*MWAHAHAHA!*<—

POLICE! POLICE!

HOW *DARE* YOU?! THIS EXHIBIT IS FOR *EVERYONE* TO ENJOY!

SEIZE HER! SHE MUST *NOT* BE ALLOWED TO INTERFERE!

EEEEK!

CREEEEEEAAAAK

OKAY, BUDDY! YOU'VE *HAD* IT!

WHAT THE–

MICKEY!

M-MINNIE?!

SHE'S MY *HOSTAGE*, MOUSE! LOOKS LIKE YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO LET ME GO ON MY WAY!

-:GASP!:-

NOW *NONE* WILL DOUBT THE GENIUS OF *MINNEZONA SMITH*!

YOU CAN'T FOOL ME! I KNOW WHO YOU *REALLY* ARE...

MINNEZONA SMITH?!

-:WHOOF!:-

NO!

JUST AS I *THOUGHT*! *PROFESSOR BRAINDRYE*!

BRAINDRYE, YOU *IDIOT*! YOU'VE *BROKEN* THE STONE!

OKAY, LET'S HAVE THE STORY!

AFTER EVERYONE LEFT YESTERDAY'S LECTURE, I NOTICED A ***SWITCH*** ON THE STONE! FLIPPING IT, I WAS ASTONISHED TO SEE...

...LOTS OF ***ROBOTS*** APPEAR!

THEY WERE ***DIGITALLY*** STORED ***INSIDE*** THE STONE, USING TECHNOLOGY INCOMPREHENSIBLE TO EARTHLINGS—AS I KNEW ALL ALONG!

MY THEORIES WERE... ***FALSE!*** WITH MY CAREER ***RUINED***, I HAD TO MAKE PLANS FOR ***RETIREMENT!*** FORTUNATELY, I FIGURED OUT HOW TO CONTROL THE ROBOTS!

SO YOU WERE FOOL ENOUGH TO THINK YOU COULD STEAL KING TUT-TUT'S TREASURES AND BLAME ME! INSTEAD, YOU PROVED MY THEORY!

OHO!

I GUESSED YOU WERE TIED UP IN THE MUMMY CASE AFTER I SAW IT AT THE HOTEL! AND I FOUND IT HERE AT THE MUSEUM!

SO I GOT INSIDE WITH YOU AND WAITED UNTIL— ***HEY!***

I ***FORGIVE*** YOU, MICKEY! IT'S ***OKAY*** IF WE'RE NOT INTERESTED IN THE SAME THINGS...

IT WAS ***BRAINDRYE*** ALL ALONG, ***PRETENDIN'*** TO BE ***MINNEZONA SMITH!***

CONGRATULATIONS ON SOLVING ANOTHER BAFFLER, MR. CASEY!

HOW YA DOIN', MOUSE? I GOT IT ***ALL FIGGERED OUT!***

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Donald Duck

THE GIANT FROM OUTER SPACE

SHEESH! I'M *SICK* OF CLEANING! THAT'S MY WHOLE DAY! CLEANING, CLEANING AND *MORE CLEANING!*

O 99316

IF I DON'T GET A BREAK, I'LL GO BANANAS!

HEY! COME BACK, SLACKER! THIS IS YOUR *SECOND BREAK* THIS WEEK!

YIPPEE! FRESH AIR!

OOPS! WHAT WAS THAT?

HEY, YOU BIG OAF! WATCH WHERE YOU'RE STEPPING!

YOU BIG CRETIN!

???

LOOK AT OUR SPACESHIP! IT'S CRUNCHED!

YOU...YOU BIG WEBFOOTED LUMMOX!

WOW! TEENSY-WEENSY ALIENS!

WHO ARE YOU CALLING AN ALIEN? YOU ALIEN!

AS CHIEF MAGISTRATE OF OUR PLANET, I SHALL PUNISH YOU!

I HEREBY SENTENCE YOU TO ONE MONTH'S HARD PHYSICAL LABOR!

OH YEAH? AND WHERE WILL I SERVE THIS SENTENCE?

ON OUR HOME PLANET OF VEGON, OF COURSE!

HA HA! WHAT IF I WON'T GO?

YOU CAN'T NOT GO! IT'S JUST NOT DONE! I HAVE PASSED SENTENCE!

WELL, YOU *ARE* PRETTY IMPOSING...

...BUT I HAVE TO GET BACK TO WORK NOW, SO TA-TA!

NOT SO FAST, MISCREANT! YOU HAVE A SENTENCE TO SERVE!

YOW!

ZIP!

SANTA LUCIA!

SOMEHOW, THEY *TELEPORTED* ME TO VEGON! AND THE PLANET IS AS TINY AS THEY ARE!

AND HERE THEY ARE! WHAT'D THEY NEED A SPACESHIP FOR?

YOU HAVEN'T *STARTED* YET?! YOU HAVE TO CLEAN OUR PLANET FOR A MONTH!

ZAP!

CLEANING?! ABSOLUTELY NOT! PICK SOMETHING ELSE!

VERY WELL, YOU CAN BABYSIT THE EMPEROR'S NEPHEW, GLADSTONIUS, FOR A MONTH!

GLADSTONIUS? NEVER MIND, I'LL CLEAN!

AH! A WISE CHOICE!

NOW WHAT?

OOPS!

YOU DID IT AGAIN, YOU BIG IDIOT! THAT WAS VEGON'S MOST VENERABLE BUILDING!

I HEREBY EXTEND YOUR SENTENCE TO *TWO* MONTHS! HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT?

GRR! FINE! I'LL JUST GET BACK TO SWEEPING WITH THIS STUPID PAINT BRUSH!

PHEW! IT'S HOT HERE! THESE GUYS HAVE TWO OR THREE SUNS!

I'LL TAKE A DIP IN THIS POND!

AAAAAAAH!

?!

GET OUT OF THE OCEAN! THE WATER IS RISING, OUR DAMS ARE BREAKING AND YOU'RE CAUSING A FLOOD!

UH-OH!

I'M DOUBLING YOUR SENTENCE TO *FOUR* MONTHS FOR ALL THIS DAMAGE!

GREAT!

ULP! I THINK I CAUGHT A COLD FROM MY SWIM IN THAT POND!

OH, NO! DON'T YOU *DARE* SNEEZE! WITH YOUR HUGE SCHNOZZ, YOU'LL CREATE A HURRICANE!

AAACHOO!

AAGH! WHAT HIT ME?!

EXCUSE ME!

ANOTHER HISTORIC BUILDING! FOR THAT, YOU GET...

LET ME GUESS! *EIGHT* MONTHS?

MUCH LATER...

EARTHLING, WE HAVE A *SPECIAL* TASK FOR YOU!

THE RICHEST DUCK ON VEGON WANTS YOUR HELP—NOW THAT IT'S FREE!

YOU MUST POLISH ALL THE COINS IN HIS MONEY BIN!

:SIGH!: I GUESS IT FIGURES...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

I HAVE SOME EXPERIENCE IN THIS! TRUST ME!

FIRST, SOAP AND WATER...

...THEN AGITATE THUSLY!

DRAIN THE WATER AND THE COINS ARE AS GOOD AS... HUH? SOMEONE WAS INSIDE!

SPTT! SPRRT! USELESS MORON! FEATHERBRAIN! NITWIT! GRRRR!

ATTEMPTING TO DROWN THE WORLD'S RICHEST DUCK! YOUR SENTENCE IS NOW *SIXTEEN* MONTHS, OAFISH ONE!

FINE! BUT WHAT ABOUT MY CIVIL RIGHTS? ISN'T IT TIME FOR A LUNCH BREAK SOON?

HE'S RIGHT! WE MUST FEED HIM!

ER... WHAT DO YOU EAT?

A HAMBURGER WOULD REALLY HIT THE SPOT! YUM YUM!

A HAMBURGER?! THAT'S A REASONABLE REQUEST!

A PRISONER HAS THE RIGHT TO THREE FULL MEALS A DAY!

:GULP!: I'VE ESTIMATED WHAT WE NEED TO MAKE HIM A HAMBURGER...

AND?

FOR THE MEAT WE NEED HALF A CATTLE FARM! FOR THE BUN IT WILL TAKE TWO BARNS FULL OF WHEAT!

GASP!

THE KETCHUP REQUIRES A THOUSAND TOMATOES!

MAKE IT *TWO* THOUSAND! I LIKE A *LOT!*

AND WE HAVE TO FEED HIM FOR SIXTEEN MONTHS!!!

NO FOOD WILL BE LEFT ON THE PLANET!

THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO!

WE HAVE TO PARDON HIM!

EVEN THOUGH HIS CRIMES ARE SEVERE!

ANON...

GOODBYE, EX-CON!

ZAP!

YAHOO! I'M HOME AGAIN!

BUT... *GULP!*... I'M WAY OVERTIME ON MY BREAK! UNCLE SCROOGE WILL BE MADDER THAN A HORNET! SO...

I'M GOING HOME! I'VE BEEN LECTURED ENOUGH TODAY!!

MICKEY AND HIS GREATEST FOE JOIN FORCES...

IN AUGUST 2005

E-mail: dd@gemstonepub.com
Surface mail: Donald Duck, 1966 Greenspring Drive Ste. 400, Timonium MD 21093.

"I'm stuck! Maybe I can eat myself free!"—a panicked (and, hopefully, hungry) Duckburgian citizen, having a gelatinous New Year from Gorm Transgaard's "Gong of the Year," in *Donald Duck and Friends* 323. Leave it to "Grandmaster Gorm" to usher in the greatest comestible catastrophe in these pages since Carl Barks and Donald christened the village of "Omelet" all those years ago! From "Tours in Space" to "Snoopers by the Book," Transgaard's endless innovations should have *him* named Gong of the Year!

If circumstances dictate that my beloved New York Islanders might not hit the hockey rink this year, at least I can watch Mickey demonstrate some "pluck with a puck" in our Friends Feature "Go Figure." Alas, cup-wise, Mick's performance was more "Dixie" than "Stanley"!

Lastly, Carl Barks continues to show us why he must have been declared Gong of the Year multiple times, with this issue's classic reprint. After observing Don go from "New Year's resolution" to "New Year's retribution" on his naughty nephews, I'll just resolve something easy and painless... like continuing to enjoy all the great comics from Gemstone in the coming year.

—Joe Torcivia
via email

First just let me say what a joy it is to see Duck comics again! It feels like a long time since I last saw Duckburg! I've been reading Disney comics, especially the Ducks, since I was six years old (that's about 19 years ago now) so you can imagine I have some pretty strong feelings for them. I'm so glad to see so many of the old crew from Gladstone is now at Gemstone. When I got my first issue and saw all the old names like John Clark, Gary Leach, Sue Daigle-Leach, and many others, I was reassured that my old friends Donald, Scrooge, and the boys were still in good hands.

For the most part, I'm thrilled with everything. I'm especially glad to see so many of the same artists, and that Donald hasn't been radically modernized or anything scary like that. But I do have a couple of small problems.

I personally can't afford the prestige format books except occasionally, and I don't really go for Mickey stories, so I'm really limited to just getting *Donald Duck and Friends*. What I'm realizing, though, is that this means I won't be seeing any William Van Horn or Don Rosa, or any Carl Barks reprints. Is there a possibility of seeing something besides just the European artists in a less expensive format? The European artists are doing an outstanding job but I really hate not seeing anything by Van Horn, Rosa and Barks, and a little variety would be nice.

Also, I strongly feel that the "Friends" in *Donald Duck* should not be characters from the Mouse universe. Again, because I'm financially limited in how many and which comics I can get, I'd like to be able to just get the stories I like; and I think it makes sense to have Duck comics be Duck comics.

Thank you once again for bringing back something that has always given me so much happiness. Reading these comics as a child was one of my greatest pleasures, and a large part of why I am now pusuing a degree in art. I still hope one day to see my artwork in your pages! Thank you from a truly devoted fan.

—Dorothy Mitchell
via email

You've no doubt noticed that Barks now has a permanent place in this title, and some Van Horn has crept in too. Since Rosa primarily does Uncle Scrooge stories, however, that's where most of his work will have to go. As for Mickey, give the modern stories we're featuring here a chance. They're really good.

Gorm Transgaard's "Gong of the Year" was a rare gem. It was a Donald Duck story by someone other than Don Rosa that was truly able to capture the flavor and essence of a good Carl Barks 10-page Duck story, though it took 12 pages. Duckburg's inundation by Bell-o was an imaginative recapturing of Barks' absurd but still plausible disasters, such as poor Pleasant Valley's inundation by broken eggs in "Omelet" (*Walt Disney's Comics and Stories* 146). William Van Horn has approached this, but his Donald is usually too selfish and self-impressed to garner the same level of sympathy as here, where Donald sets out to be the Gong, not because he thinks he's so great when he really isn't, but to impress Daisy. The interesting twist away from The Master's way of doing things is to have it be the combination of Scrooge's and Donald's ambitions that brings on the disaster, not Donald's alone. My only quibble is that it is not clear in the initial meeting of Scrooge with his advisors on pages 1-2 that the problem lies with Scrooge's local supermarket chain; we only learn that on page 6, halfway through the story. From there, the story makes more sense. Otherwise though, a great piece of work.

—Drew Feldmann
via email

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MOUSE TRAP!

Scoop

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